



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 244

February Session, 2014

Substitute House Bill No. 5278

House of Representatives, April 1, 2014

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. JUTILA of the 37th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING MANDATORY REGISTRAR OF VOTER SESSIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-17 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

3 [(a) For the purposes of this section, "primary day" means the day
4 that a primary for state, district and municipal offices is being held in
5 accordance with section 9-423, and "election day" means the day of
6 each regular election. (1)]

7 (a) The registrars of voters of each town shall hold [sessions] a
8 session to examine the qualifications of electors and admit those found
9 qualified on the [dates and at the times set forth in this section. Such
10 sessions shall be held on the following days during the hours
11 indicated, except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection:

T1	Day	Hours
T2	Fourteenth day	
T3	before primary day	any two hours between
T4		5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.
T5	Saturday of third week	
T6	before election day	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
T7	Seventh day	
T8	before election day	9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

12 The session of the registrars of voters on the seventh day before
 13 election day shall be the last regular session for the admission of
 14 electors prior to an election, as defined in subsection (y) of section 9-1.
 15 (2) No town having a population of less than twenty-five thousand
 16 persons shall be required to hold sessions for admission of electors on
 17 the fourteenth day before primary day] seventh day before the day of
 18 each regular election from nine o'clock a.m. to eight o'clock p.m.

19 (b) [Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
 20 the] The registrars of voters shall hold a limited session on the last
 21 week day before each regular election from nine o'clock a.m. to five
 22 o'clock p.m. for the purpose of admitting only those persons whose
 23 qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence in the municipality
 24 were attained after the last session for the admission of electors prior
 25 to an election. The registrars shall enter the names of those electors
 26 admitted at such limited session on the proper list, with their
 27 residences by street and numbers.

28 (c) In addition to the sessions held pursuant to subsections (a) and
 29 (b) of this section, the registrars of voters in each town shall hold one
 30 session each year, between the first of January and the last day of the
 31 school year, at each public high school in such town, for the admission
 32 of persons who are eligible for admission under subsection (a) or (b) of
 33 section 9-12, provided, in the case of a public high school in a regional
 34 school district, such session shall be held on a rotating basis by the
 35 registrars of voters for each town which is a member of the regional
 36 school district. The registrars of voters need not give notice of this

37 session by publication in a newspaper.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	9-17
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GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 15 \$	FY 16 \$
All Municipalities	Potential Savings	Minimal	Minimal

Explanation

The bill reduces the number of mandatory qualification examination sessions that registrars of voters must hold prior to a primary election for state, district, or municipal office. Reducing the number of such sessions may result in a minimal savings to municipalities.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5278*****AN ACT CONCERNING MANDATORY REGISTRAR OF VOTER SESSIONS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill eliminates the requirement that registrars of voters hold voter registration sessions on the (1) 14th day before a primary for two hours between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. and (2) Saturday of the third week before a regular election, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 pm.

It retains the requirements that registrars hold (1) a session from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the seventh day before each regular election; (2) a limited session on the last weekday before a regular election to admit individuals who became eligible to vote after the last voter registration session prior to an election; and (3) a session, annually, between January 1 and the last day of school at each public high school in their town. (In regional school districts, the registrars of the member towns rotate the responsibility for conducting the session.)

The bill also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 14 Nay 0 (03/14/2014)